

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action dated April 1, 2011. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments provided above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 4-23 are currently pending in the Application. Claims 1, 15 and 17 are independent claims. The claims are amended to clarify their recitations. Claim 17 is canceled because allowability of claim 5 was rescinded in the Office Action dated April 1, 2011. Claim 17 was added in the response to the previous Office Action in reliance on that allowability. Claim 24 is added by this amendment.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 4, 5, 12, and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 3,101,537 to Kleinman ("Kleinman"). Claims 6, 7, 11 and 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,730,100 to Yamaguchi ("Yamaguchi") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,430,813 to Muraguchi ("Muraguchi"). Claims 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kleinman in view of Yamaguchi. Claims 18-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kleinman in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,189,792 to Otsuka et al. ("Otsuka"). The rejection of the claims is respectfully traversed. It is respectfully submitted that the claims are allowable over Kleinman, Yamaguchi, Muraguchi, and Otsuka for at least the following reasons.

As illustrated in Figure 16 of Kleinman, the body-portion 52 and cover section 53 are complementary portions of the same structure. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the reference at col. 5, line 57 cited in the Office Action, stating: "[t]he handle casing E comprises a body-portion 52 and a cover section 53, each of hollow structure to house a

motor therein." does not teach, disclose, or suggest "a shell structure for enveloping at least the housing, the shell structure extends at least from the head holder to the power plug socket and fully envelopes the housing", as recited in amended claim 1, for example.

Additionally, the reference at col. 3, lines 25-27, referring to FIGS. 7 and 8, provides that "the housing 1 comprised of two half housings 7, 7 joined by screw 7n, and has a switch (S) in its front face." This, as was previously argued, does not teach, disclose or suggest "a shell structure for enveloping at least the housing" as for example recited in claim 1 and further, does not teach, disclose, or suggest "the housing includes at least one operating member and the shell structure includes at least one manipulating member operatively connected with said operating member", as for example recited in claim 8 from which claims 9 and 10 depend.

It is respectfully submitted that the apparatus of claim 1 is not anticipated or made obvious by the teachings of Kleinman and Yamaguchi. For example, Kleinman and Yamaguchi do not teach, disclose or suggest, an apparatus that amongst other patentable elements, comprises (illustrative emphasis provided) "a head holder including at least one shaving head including a shaving surface for contacting the skin during shaving and at least one cutter moveable behind the shaving surface; a housing having first and second ends for carrying a drive structure at the first end and for enclosing a motor coupled to the drive structure for driving the at least one cutter and at least part of an electric power supply connected to the motor, the electric power supply having a power plug socket at the second end; and a shell structure for enveloping at least the housing, the shell structure extends at

least from the head holder to the power plug socket and fully envelopes the housing" as recited in claim 1 and as similarly recited in claims 15 and 24.

Based on the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that the independent claims are patentable and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. The dependent claims respectively depend from one of the independent claims and accordingly are allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the claims. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

Applicants have made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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July 1, 2011

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